

(51) International Patent Classification:
G06F 13/00 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2010/056329

(22) International Filing Date:

11 November 2010 (11.11.2010)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

12/618,489 13 November 2009 (13.11.2009) US

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Circle Road, Lexington, KY 40550 (US).(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ,
CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO,
DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT,
HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP,
KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD,
ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI,
NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD,
SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR,
TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG,
ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ,
TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK,
EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU,
LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK,

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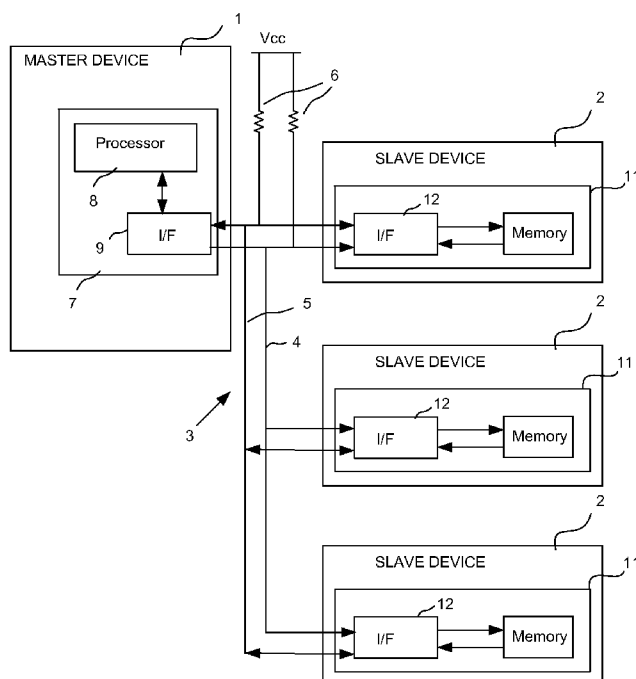
(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR POLLING ADDRESSES OF ONE OR MORE SLAVE DEVICES IN A COM-
MUNICATIONS SYSTEM

Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: An address polling method and system for communicating unique slave address values to a master device over a shared bus. The method includes receiving a request signal from the master device requesting that a slave address from each slave device coupled to the data line be sent to the master; causing, in a serial manner, the data line to be placed in logic states corresponding to bit values in a first slave address; and upon the data line being placed in a logic state that is different from a corresponding bit value of the first slave address, determining that another slave device is placing its slave address on the data line and temporarily entering an idle state until such other slave device has finished communicating its slave address to the master device.



SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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Published:

— *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*

— *with information concerning incorporation by reference of missing parts and/or elements (Rule 20.6)*